



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



## Assisting the Vulnerable Conflict-Affected in Darfur

Funded by USAID/Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance  
South Darfur, Sudan

### Sixth Quarterly Report January 1, 2014 – March 31, 2014

COUNTRY CONTACT	HEADQUARTERS CONTACT	PROGRAM SUMMARY	
Ali Eltayeb	Steve Zodrow	Award No.	AID-OFDA-G-13-00012
Country Director	Senior Program Officer	Start Date	December 1, 2012
House No. 19/1, Block No. 13	45 SW Ankeny Street	End Date	January 31, 2015
Riyadh, Khartoum, Sudan	Portland, Oregon 97204 USA	Report Date	April 30, 2014
(+249) (0) 912168042	Phone/Fax:+1(503) 8965729/8965011	Total Award	\$4,435,403

## **1. Overview**

### **Security**

In early 2014 a new wave of violence across Darfur generated enormous additional humanitarian needs. Hostilities and violence involving Government forces supported by the Rapid Support Force, a Government-affiliated militia, and armed movements in Darfur have expanded and the conflict has spread across much of North and South Darfur, with some spillover effects to Central, West and East Darfur states. Civilian populations bear the brunt of the recent hostilities and insecurity.

As of 31 March 2014, the number of newly displaced people stood at 199,268. This is in addition to some 2 million people who face longer-term displacement, having fled their homes during the height of the conflict in 2003-2005. During the early stages of this current crisis, aid agencies have been unable to access many of the affected areas due to violence and insecurity as well as denials of access by the authorities (especially Humanitarian Administration Commission-HAC).

While access for humanitarian assistance activities has seen an improvement in recent days, ongoing displacement provoked by threats to life and the physical destruction of property; poor protection of civilians; climate; and constrained operating conditions, funding, resources and implementation continues to be of significant concern of the aid community.

Government security forces and HAC continued restricting the movement of humanitarian agencies to the rural areas during the past quarter. Threats of kidnapping and carjacking around Nyala town, especially targeting the humanitarian agencies, continued. Various security incidents involving humanitarian organization staff and assets were reported in different parts in Darfur. Despite the various security incidents and restrictions in Nyala, MCS field staff continued to access and perform their duties in the rural areas (with due security precautions and vigilance) whenever they were given travel permits by HAC to move into field.

### **Program Implementation**

The past quarter period of January to March was a transition period during the cost modification of the Assistance Award.

Funding of the OFDA 2013 Assistance Award ended in January 2014 and the signing of the cost modification was completed in March 2014. During this period MCS continued implementing limited WASH, Agriculture and Food Security (AFS), and Economic Recovery and Market System (ERMS) activities in three IDP camps (Dereige, Sakaly and Elserreif) in addition to the Abga Rajel rural area.

This quarter had off season agricultural activities and AFS sector activities mainly involved follow up on program beneficiaries and review of the achievements during the 2013 OFDA Assistance award. While ERMS sector activities involved monitoring and follow up on the graduates of the vocational skills training and the small entrepreneurs who were trained and supported with small start-up grants in previous quarters.

## **2. Program Accomplishments**

### **Sector 1: WASH**

#### **Sub-sector 1.1: Water Supply**

MCS continued to support the operation and maintenance of 11 motorized water systems in Dereige, Sakaly and Elserif camps and provided approximately a total of 596 cubic meters of safe drinking water per day benefiting 62,140 people (including 32,140 in Dereige, 7,906 in Sakaly and 22,906 in Elserif camps).

MCS community volunteers carried out 36 ground water monitoring exercises to measure the level of water table in ten boreholes in the three camps.

The sector continued with water quality monitoring and analysis of Free Residual Chlorine samples (residual chlorine exceeding 0.2 mg/l); results of samples collected from water points and water containers (jerry cans) showed an average adequate levels of chlorine.

The FRC samples collected from the household water storage containers (clay pots) showed that an average of 0.42% of the samples had low levels of chlorine (0.0-0.1 mg/l) due to inadequate cleanness of the household water storage containers especially in Dereige and Elserif camps.

#### **Sub-sector 1.2: Sanitation**

During the quarter the project supported the construction of 207 new household latrines and 30 communal latrines for people affected by Acute Jaundice Syndrome<sup>1</sup> and new arrivals in Elserif and Dereige IDP camps.

---

<sup>1</sup> Elserif camp is located in the western part of Nyala town, established in 2006. Before the tribal clashes in the western belt of South Darfur it has only 2,700 HHs (13,306 individuals) but 1,919 new HHs (9,598 individuals) were received in February 2013 that made the total number of IDPs to increase to 22,904. During the last two months of 2013 (November and December) and the month of January and February of this year, additional 750 IDP families (3,750 individuals) arrived and settled in the newly established section E and F of the camp. This particular camp seems to be a preferred destination for most of the new arrivals because of their ethnic background and blood ties with existing camp residents. The camp is expanding very rapidly and accommodating IDPs within the same sectors where WASH infrastructure exist has become impossible due to overcrowding and possible tension between new arrivals and already settled IDPs.

Water supply and sanitation activities proposed under current OFDA award are not adequate because it only partially covers the newly expanded sectors and IDPs population. These newly arrived IDPs and expanded sectors were not included in our current OFDA award beneficiaries and budget calculation. Currently, the outbreak is largely affecting sector E and F where most of the new arrivals are taking shelter.

During the first week of January 2014, acute jaundice syndrome broke out in the Sector E (Alzahra and Katila i.e. new arrival area) which is believed to be associated with new arrivals. According to the WHO Hepatitis E fact sheet, the virus is transmitted mainly through contaminated drinking water, the faecal-oral route due to faecal contamination of drinking water, and contaminated water or food supplies have been implicated in major outbreaks.

The first onset of symptoms of this outbreak can be traced back to first week of December 2013 (according to MSF-B HMIS Data) reported cases. The outbreak swiftly spread to the sector E, targeting male, female and children of the connectedly populated area with poor sanitation and low access to safe drinking water. So far one death has been reported from the 295 reported/registered caseload with MSF-B HMIS.

The disease is spreading rapidly in the new arrivals area (February 2014- 65 cases registered and April 2014-295 cases registered with MSF-B) due to insufficient water and sanitation facilities. In addition, poor sanitation and hygiene practices are contributing to the transmission of the disease and most of the cases found are in the new arrival area.

A total of 207 new household latrines were constructed in Elserif camp. In addition MCS constructed 30 communal latrines for the new arrivals including (25 in Elserif and 5 in Dereige camps) while 140 old household latrines were rehabilitated in Elserif IDP camp.

### **Sub-sector 1.3: Environmental Health**

MCS supported the community with 50 sets of cleaning tools (including rakes, local basket and broom) and rental donkey carts for solid waste management.

Volunteer's hygiene promoter mobilized communities in the three camps to participate in clean up campaigns. MCS also intensified solid waste campaigns to reduce outbreak of Acute Jaundice Syndrome (AJS) in Elserif camp. A total of 28 waste management exercises were conducted in the three IDP camps including (cleaning their residences and public places, and the collection and removal of solid waste by donkey carts to the final disposal areas).

### **Sub-sector 1.4: Hygiene Promotion**

During the quarter, hygiene promotion activities focused on awareness raising for Acute Jaundice Syndrome in Elserif camp. Community hygiene promoters reached 3,548 families through 48 home to home visit exercises with hygiene messaging such as hand washing with water and soap at critical times, proper use and cleaning of latrines and safe handling of drinking water. The team also conducted water dialogues with water users at tap stands to increase community awareness on safe water handling and cleaning of water collection and storage containers to prevent spread of AJS among the new arrivals in Elserif camp. In addition MCS in collaboration with WES/UNICEF supported the new arrivals affected by AJS with 2,800 new water collection containers (jerry cans) and 1,139 cartons of soap (five pieces for each family) for 4,581 HHs in Elserif camp, and 37 women were trained on prevention of AJS in Elserif camp.

## **Sector 2: Agriculture and Food Security**

### **Sub-sector 2.1: Seed Systems and Agricultural Inputs**

During the quarter MCS conducted follow up on agriculture and food security sector beneficiaries. Interventions under the Agriculture and Food Security sector were aimed at increasing availability of food through increased crop production and increased access to food through vegetable kitchen gardens.

Project follow up revealed that the target population has benefited from MCS agriculture and food security interventions. Beneficiaries reported availability of food and improvement in household incomes and indicated high level satisfaction with the changes that have taken place in their lives (families) since they got involved in the food security program.

---

To address this disease outbreak MCS has seek OFDA's assistance under Rapid Response Fund (RRF). The application is still under review.

Local seed supply system was revived through a targeted training and follow up support to select farmers to engage in seed multiplication. Seed fairs were organized to enable farmers access to seeds by using seed vouchers so that they are able to grow and have a good yield.

Farmers were trained on seed preservation and storage so that they reduce crop losses during post harvest handling and not be forced to immediately sell off their produce when prices are lowest at harvest. Farmers were trained in vegetable production and supported with vegetable production kits including vegetable seeds, hand tools and small scale drip irrigation kits. The farmers were able to grow and consume vegetables.

Some of the farmers sold off the surplus vegetables for household income while others preserved the vegetables for dry season consumption. Some farmers reported earning between \$1000 to \$3000 in a single season from their harvest of staple crops and vegetables.

The Agriculture and Food Security sector targeted 15,150 beneficiaries and reached 30,837 individuals (16,394 females and 14,443 males) i.e. 15,687 individuals extra.

The following achievements were made against the set targets:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Achieved</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Farmer Training in seed multiplication	Training sessions	3	3	3 training sessions of 5 days each were conducted and 30 local seed producers (9 females and 21 males) trained on seed multiplication
Foundation Seed	Beneficiaries	30	30	30 seed producers (9 females and 21 males) supported with foundation seed including sorghum, millet and groundnut seeds plus traction kits of donkey ploughs and carts.
Farmer Training on seed preservation and storage	Training sessions	15	20	20 training sessions of 3 days each conducted for 1,000 farmers (597 females and 403 males) trained in seed preservation and storage. More training sessions were conducted because training was done by program staff and the government Ministry of Agriculture staff. The facilitation fees for the ministry staff are low.
Seed fairs and Seed vouchers	Beneficiaries	1,700	1,944	MCS supported 1,700 households with 10,517 individuals (5,881 females and 4,636 males) with staple crop seeds including sorghum, millet, groundnuts, cowpeas and okra.  Another 244 households with 1,913 individuals (954 females and 959 males) were supported with seed under a sub grant agreement with a local partner.

Vegetable production kits (seeds, tools and irrigation kits) & trainings	Kits	600	1,848	1,848 vegetable production kits including vegetable seeds, tools, irrigation kits and training supplied to 1,848 farmers (1,135 females and 713 males). More kits were supplied because the training component was done by program staff and the government Ministry of Agriculture staff. The facilitation fees for the ministry staff are low. Also more funds were available due to changes in exchange rates.
Farmer Training on tree nursery management/tree planting	Training sessions	10	15	15 training sessions were conducted and 746 farmers (448 females and 298 males) trained in tree nursery management/tree planting. More training sessions were conducted because training was done by program staff and the government Ministry of Agriculture staff. The facilitation fees for the ministry staff are low.
Fruit tree seedlings	Seedlings	4,000	12,000	12,000 tree seedlings of guava and lime were distributed to 786 beneficiaries (475 females and 311 males). More seedlings were distributed because the types of fruit seedlings (guavas and lime) distributed were less expensive. The expensive types of fruit seedlings (grafted mangoes and oranges) were out of stock.

### **Sector 3: Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS)**

#### **Sub-sector 3.1: Economic Asset Development**

During the quarter MCS conducted monitoring and follow up visits on ERMS sector activities focusing on artisans who received training and support during the previous quarters.

Under the economic recovery and market systems component vocational and business skills training were conducted with the aim of stimulating growth for micro and small enterprises while at the same time mainstreaming business skills training and support to selected vulnerable households.

The interventions were implemented in the three IDP camps (Deriege, Sakaly and Elserif) and the rural area of Abga Rajel. MCS collaborated with the Nyala Technical College and Nyala Technical School to sponsor 50 local artisans for short term vocational skills training. The artisans were supported with startup tool kits to enable them to establish their own businesses.

To date, 75% of the vocational training graduates have established their own businesses and are offering services. The monitoring visits revealed that most of the

trained artisans were able to start their own businesses and are operating in IDP camps markets, Nyala town markets and the surrounding Nyala rural areas.

The monitoring visits showed that on a daily basis carpenters were earning 30-100 SDGs, blacksmiths were earning 50-150 SDGs while mobile repair artisans were earning 40-100 SDGs. The lack of electric power was the main challenge affecting their business opportunities and earnings.

MCS in collaboration with Nyala University trained 150 small scale entrepreneurs in business skills and supported them with small cash grants to enable them to improve and grow their businesses.

Follow up on some of the trained and supported entrepreneurs by MCS staff indicate increased incomes through improved profit margins. The different businesses being run by the small scale entrepreneurs include farm produce buying and selling, charcoal/firewood selling, butchery, vegetable selling, tea making, food selling and bamboo sheet making.

Other enterprises include bakeries, donkey cart services, power generation and grinding mill services.

The follow up findings in the three camps showed 90% (117 out of 130) of small entrepreneur grantees in camps monitored are successfully running their enterprises. Their average daily income ranges from 40-150 SDGs per person

The Economic Recovery and Market Systems sector targeted 3,475 beneficiaries and reached 3,733 individuals (1978 females and 1755 males).

The following achievements were made against the set targets:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Achieved</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Carpentry kits	Kits	15	15	15 male carpenters equipped with carpentry tool kits
Blacksmith kits	Kits	15	15	15 male blacksmiths equipped with blacksmith tool kits
Mobile repair/Mobile Charging kits	Kits	15	20	20 artisans (1 female and 19 males) equipped with mobile repair kits
Carpentry skills training	Beneficiaries	15	15	15 male carpenters trained
Blacksmith skills training	Beneficiaries	15	15	15 male blacksmith artisans trained
Mobile repair/Mobile Charging skills training	Beneficiaries	20	20	20 mobile repair artisans (1 female and 19 male) trained in mobile repair and maintenance.
Basic business skills Training for entrepreneurs	Beneficiaries	150	330	330 beneficiaries (75 females and 255 males) equipped with business skills. The beneficiaries included 150 small scale entrepreneurs, 150 vocational trainees and 30 seed producers.

Cash Grants	Grants	150	150	150 cash grants of \$200 each were disbursed to 150 small scale entrepreneurs (65 females and 85 males).
-------------	--------	-----	-----	--

### **3. Cross-cutting Issues**

#### **a. Environment**

MCS considered the protection of the environment during the design and implementation of program activities. The team is using environmentally friendly materials in the construction and rehabilitation of sanitation facilities, the rehabilitation of water sources, and vegetable gardens to promote best practices in environmental management.

The team will also ensure water protection to avoid contamination from human feces by promoting adequate disposal of human feces in the sanitation facilities and proper waste management.

MCS continued with farmer training on tree nursery management and tree planting. A total of 746 farmers in Abga Rajel area were trained. MCS distributed 12,000 fruit tree seedlings of lime and guavas to 786 beneficiaries (475 females and 311 males) in Abga Rajel rural areas.

#### **b. Gender**

MCS promote gender representation by advising the communities to select leadership groups with equal participation of women and men in WASH committees for managing water, sanitation and hygiene promotion activities, and AFS and ERMS programs.

MCS purposefully targets women and youth (boys and girls) in order to encourage them to participate in problem solving and decision making. During the past year more women (53.16%) than men benefited from the agriculture and food security sector interventions.

#### **c. Capacity Building**

MCS will continue the process of ownership and encourage IDP communities to manage water, sanitation and hygiene promotion activities. Besides the regular program trainings there were capacity building activities during the recent quarter.

#### **d: Coordination**

MCS has continued to participate in bi-weekly WASH sector coordination meetings chaired by UNICEF/ WES, emergency response meetings for new arrivals, and joint monitoring visits organized by OCHA and HAC plus attends monthly Area Food Security and Livelihood cluster meetings chaired by FAO and co-chaired by WFP representatives. MCS also has continued to participate in the bi-weekly Food Security and Livelihood sector three working groups on Crop, Livestock and Natural Resources.

And, MCS is actively participating in AJS (Acute Jaundice Syndrome) weekly meetings held by the Ministry of Health and WHO.

#### 4. Challenges

- There has been restriction in movement to IDP camps and Abga Rajel rural villages due to fighting and demonstrations in Nyala town plus insecurity in the rural areas. MCS has followed the restrictions and staff only travel to the field after getting travel permits from HAC and after crosschecking with the communities to ensure safety.
- A shortage of fuel has decreased the available quantity of safe drinking water in IDP camps. Due to fuel rationing, MCS is starting a system where some reservoir fuel will be kept to run the generators for times when there are fuel shortages in town.
- Planned activities for the quarter (February/March) did not start on time due to the delay in finalizing the OFDA 2014 Cost Modification Award.
- Shortage of fuel in Nyala fuel stations has negatively impacted the daily water supply.

**Baseline data – Sixth Quarterly Data**

<b>Locations and Number of People per Location:</b>		<b>Dereige 32140</b>		<b>Sakaly 7906</b>		<b>Elsereif 23717</b>		<b>Abga Rajel 13500</b>	
<b>Sector 1:</b>	<b>Water, Sanitation &amp; Hygiene (WASH)</b>								
<b>Objective:</b>	<b>Conflict Affected populations have increased access to quality water supply, appropriate sanitation facilities, and improved hygiene practices</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>6Q</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>6Q</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>6Q</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>6Q</b>
N. of Beneficiaries Targeted:	<b>77,263</b>								
N. of IDPs Beneficiaries Targeted:	<b>63,763</b>								
<b>Sub-Sector Name:</b>	<b>Water Supply</b>								
Indicator 1:	<i>Number of people directly benefiting from the water supply infrastructure</i>							-	-
Indicator 2:	<i>Number of people targeted by water supply infrastructure (WS 1<sup>2</sup>)</i>							-	-
Indicator 3:	<i>Number of water points developed, repaired or rehabilitated (WS 3, Bacteriological)</i>	-						-	
Indicator 4:	<i>Number of water points developed, repaired or rehabilitated (WS 4, Chlorine)</i>	-						-	-
<b>Sub-Sector Name:</b>	<b>Sanitation</b>	-		-		-			

<sup>2</sup> Water coverage lit/person/day

Indicator 1:	<i>Number of people directly benefiting from the sanitation infrastructure program.</i>								-	-
Indicator 2:	<i>No of people whose family received or build a household latrine as a result of the program (S 4, Household Latrine Infrastructure)</i>									
Indicator 3:	<i>No of people receiving hygiene promotion (S7, Solid Waste Management Household)</i>									
<b>Sub-Sector Name:</b>	<b>Environmental Health</b>	-								
Indicator 1:	<i>Number of people directly benefiting from solid waste management, drainage , activities (without double-counting)</i>									
Indicator 2:	<i>Number of people targeted by environmental health program (EH2, Community Cleanup)</i>									
<b>Sub-Sector Name:</b>	<b>Hygiene Promotion</b>									
Indicator 1:	<i>Number of people receiving direct hygiene promotion (excluding mass media campaigns and without double</i>									
Indicator 2:	<i>Number of people receiving hygiene promotion (HP1, Hand Washing Knowledge)</i>									
Indicator 3:	<i>Number of people receiving hygiene promotion (HP3, Safe Water Handling)</i>									
Sector 2:	<b>Agriculture and Food Security (AFS)</b>									
Main Objective:	<i>To improve food security amongst vulnerable households, enhancing subsistence consumption and better nutrition through increased crop production</i>									

Number of Beneficiaries Targeted:	15,150								
Number of IDP Beneficiaries Targeted:	9,700								
<b>Sub-Sector Name:</b>	<b>Seed Systems Security</b>								
Indicator 1:	<i>Projected increase in number of months of food self-sufficiency due to seed systems/agricultural input for beneficiary households</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indicator 2:	<i>Number of people benefiting from seed systems/agricultural input activities, by sex</i>								
Sector 3:	<i>Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS)</i>								
Main Objective:	<i>Improve business skills and income generation opportunities for vulnerable households</i>								
Number of Beneficiaries Targeted:	3,475								
Number of IDP Beneficiaries Targeted:	2,475								
<b>Sub-Sector Name:</b>	<b>New Livelihoods Development</b>								
Indicator 1:	<i>Number of people assisted through new livelihoods development activities, by sex</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Indicator 2:	<i>Number of new MSEs started</i>	-		-		-		-	-
Indicator 3:	<i>Percentage of people, by sex, continuing in their new livelihoods by program completion</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indicator 4:	<i>Total USD amount channeled into the program area through sub-sector activities.</i>	-		-		-		-	